

Contact: Jessica Murray, 404.946.7468

**BYU Student Team Earns First Place in
Skanska's University Grant Project Competition**
*Contractor's Healthcare Center of Excellence Challenges Students to
Address "Real World" Issues*

ATLANTA, March 13, 2008 – Skanska USA Building Inc. announced today the winners of its University Grant Project Competition. For the third year, teams from the University of Washington submitted entries and for the first time were joined by student teams from Brigham Young University (BYU) and the University of Puerto Rico. The first place award went to the team from BYU for its design of an emergency department specifically aimed at responding to an infectious disease outbreak.

Established by Skanska's Healthcare Center of Excellence in 2005, the University Grant Project Competition fosters the relationship between education and the construction industry to better prepare tomorrow's construction management professionals. The competition includes more than \$8,000 in awards.

Each college team participating in the grant competition chose one of three "real world" situations in the healthcare industry and was given 45 days to present the best solution to their chosen assignments. A diverse group of Skanska employees made up the panel of judges that evaluated the projects and ranked the grant recipients.

This year's first place award went to a team of four students from Brigham Young University, which took up the challenge to design an emergency department that could respond to an infectious disease outbreak disaster. The four students based their design around three main problems: spread of contamination; poor hospital design and staff complacency. The team's extensive research led them to develop a solution that incorporated a mirrored design that would allow the emergency department to quarantine those infected in the event of an outbreak to one half of the emergency department while still treating non-infected patients in the other half. Other important elements of their design included: placement of a hazardous materials entrance near the emergency entrance to treat victims as needed; and high-tech pathogen detection and innovative air supply systems to prevent the spread of disease within the hospital. The team was awarded \$4,000 and each student will have the opportunity to participate in an internship with Skanska in the summer of 2008.

The second place prize went to a team from the University of Washington. The three-student team also tackled the assignment of designing the ideal emergency department and healthcare facility responding to an infectious disease outbreak.

The team's solution converted abundant and inexpensive shipping containers into a mobile unit that could be readily assembled to create compartmentalized space needed by hospitals in such an emergency. These pre-fabricated units, complete with all necessary emergency equipment, would be ready to ship and set up with ease anywhere in the world by ship, rail or truck. In addition to providing a hospital with emergency services, these units also would provide needed space for overflow patients when not used for infectious disease control. The team was awarded a \$3,000 grant.

A second team from BYU was awarded the third-place prize. The four-member team was recognized for its design of the ideal single-patient room. They addressed seven main points that would provide the maximum level of comfort for a patient as well as provide staff with tools to do their jobs more efficiently. These points were: floor plan; aesthetics; technology; services; green building; environmental considerations and perspective. The basis of the team's design recommendations was phone interviews and online surveys that went to 1,000 people. The design incorporated natural colors, lighting and building materials in addition to the latest in technology, such as video/DVD rental, display walls and automated records to enhance patient safety and recovery. The team was awarded a \$1,000 grant.

Skanska USA Building Inc. is a leading national and local provider of construction, pre-construction consulting, general contracting and design-build services to a broad range of U.S. industries including life sciences, healthcare, education, high-tech, aviation, transportation and sports and entertainment. Skanska USA Building also provides pharmaceutical validation services to clients. The company, part of the Skanska AB global group of companies, is headquartered in Parsippany, New Jersey, and has approximately 4,700 employees.

Skanska is one of the world's leading construction groups with expertise in construction, development of commercial and residential projects and public-private partnerships. The Group currently has 60,000 employees in selected home markets in Europe, in the U.S. and Latin America. Headquartered in Stockholm, Sweden and listed on the Stockholm Stock Exchange, Skanska's sales in 2007 totaled \$20 billion.